Transforming Iowa's Mental Health and Disability Services Systems: a Community Discussion



August 2009

Iowa Needs a Plan:

A Roadmap To Transformation Through Values - Driven Practice

Why a Plan?

For a clear and consistent understanding:

- Regarding the need for transformation
- The desired outcomes
- The variety of roles in transformation, and corresponding performance expectations
- To allow us to measure progress and
- Keep us focused in difficult times.



Why Do We All Need to Work Together?

- Education—50 percent of children with severe emotional disturbances drop out of high school.
- Employment—approx. 52% of Iowans with disabilities are unemployed.
- Corrections—34% of Iowa DOC inmates have a mental illness.
- Veterans--Many of our veterans are returning home with physical and mental disabilities, including brain injuries.

If We Follow the Same Map We All Arrive Together!

- Housing 20 to 25 percent of individuals who are homeless have serious mental illnesses, and there is an acute shortage of accessible, affordable housing.
- Institutionalization MH & SA commitments increased in last 5 years, 10% for adults and 138% for children and youth.
- Iowa is 2nd highest state in nation for out of home placement of all children.
- Iowa is 2nd in nation for use of large institutional facilities (ICF/MR and RCF over 16 beds)
- Over 200 individuals with disabilities are served out-ofstate.

A Clear Plan:

Reflects and promotes a common set of:

- Iowa values
- Strategies
- Outcome measures

A Clear Plan Will:

- Increase efficiency.
- Facilitate integration of fragmented and disparate initiatives.
- Provide consistent outcome measures.
- Lead to evidence-based decision making.
- Set the framework for continuous quality improvement.

Previous "Redesign" Efforts in Iowa

- Legislative Human Services Restructuring Task Force (1997)
- MH Planning Council: Quick Fixes or Structural Reform (1998)
- CPC Restructuring Task Force (1999)
- Olmstead Plan for Community Development (2001)
- Creating a System of MH Services for Children in Iowa (2001)
- MHDD Adult MH System Redesign (2002-4)
- MHDD Child System Redesign (2004-6)
- MDHS Mental Health Systems Transformation (2007)

A Roadmap to Values-Driven Transformation: Next Steps

A series of community discussions focused on...

- 1. Transformation principles and past workgroup recommendations.
- 2. Existing services and systems; needs assessment & initial thoughts on what a transformed mental health and disability services system should look like in Iowa.
- 3. Identifying goals and actions needed to start the transformation within available resources.
- 4. The draft plan.

MHDS Communications Plan

- Community discussion meetings
 - In person
 - ICN
- DHS Web site new web page
 - Post comments and ideas
 - Post meeting notices
 - Share documents
- Email and phone

Transformation Through Values-Driven Practice

Principles Guiding the Transformation

1. <u>Personal independence and productivity</u>... recognize and respect abilities and potential of all Iowans, and promote receptivity of their contributions to society.

2. Access to Services and supports ... promote policies and practices that achieve the earliest possible detection of mental health and disability needs and facilitate timely access to appropriate services and supports.

3. <u>Empowerment</u>... emphasize the ability of people to make choices about the amounts and types of services received, and to accept responsibility for those choices.

4. Quality... improve quality by measuring results and funding only those services and supports that work.

5. <u>Individualized and Person-centered</u>... provide a comprehensive and integrated array of services and supports that are individualized and flexible.

Consumer and Family Driven... persons receiving care and their families are active participants in developing policies and in evaluating effectiveness of providers, supports and services.

6. <u>Provider accountability</u>... insure high quality mental health and disability services and supports by focusing on outcomes.

7. Government responsibility... adequately fund and manage services and supports that promote the ability of Iowans to live, learn, work and recreate in communities of their choice.

We are Asking and Listening

Iowan's have been telling us what a transformed Mental Health and Disabilities Service System should look like:



What Iowa Consumers and Families are telling us:

What the system looks like now:

- I get out once a month to go to the doctor. I want more of a life than that.
- The current system makes people fit into programs.
 We need individualized services.
- The greatest need is for affordable transportation.
 Rural Iowa is hurting badly.
- I live in low income housing. The rent is high even though the quality is low. I'm in a wheelchair. I can't go anywhere.

What Consumers and Families are Telling Us

In Iowa's Transformed System ...

- There is no fear of improving; then losing my services and needing them again.
- People get help before they lose everything.
- People are able to work and not lose needed services.
- The public is educated about mental illness and disabilities and there is no stigma.

What Consumers and Families are Telling Us In Iowa's Transformed System ...

- People see me as having a purpose in life, intelligent enough to work, capable of responsibility.
- Locating and accessing services is easy.
- Resources available are out in the open.
- The way out of the system is always visible.

In a Transformed Services System...

(Your statement here)

We want to hear from you!



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Thank you!

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